

Contribution of Guru Ram Das Towards the Development Of Sikh Panth



Birth and Parentage

- Guru Ram Das was born at Chuna Mandi in Lahore on 24th September, 1534A.D
- His Childhood name was Bhai Jetha.
- His Father Hari Das belonged to Sodhi family of Kashatriya caste.
- His Mother's name was Daya Kaur.
- He Belonged to a poor Family

Childhood and Marriage

- His parents died at an early age , so was brought up by his maternal grandmother in village **Basarke** .
- Here too he used to sell boiled grains to earn his livelihood. He was always ready to serve the people, which made him popular. **Once he got a chance to visit Goindwal Sahib, here he became the disciple of Guru Amar Das.** Guru was so impressed by the devotion and qualities of bhai Jetha that in **1553A.D Guru Amar Das got his younger daughter Bibi Bhani married to Bhai Jetha** .
- He Was blessed with three sons –Prithi Chand, Mahadev and Arjan Dev.

Guru Ram Das Serving Guru Amar Das



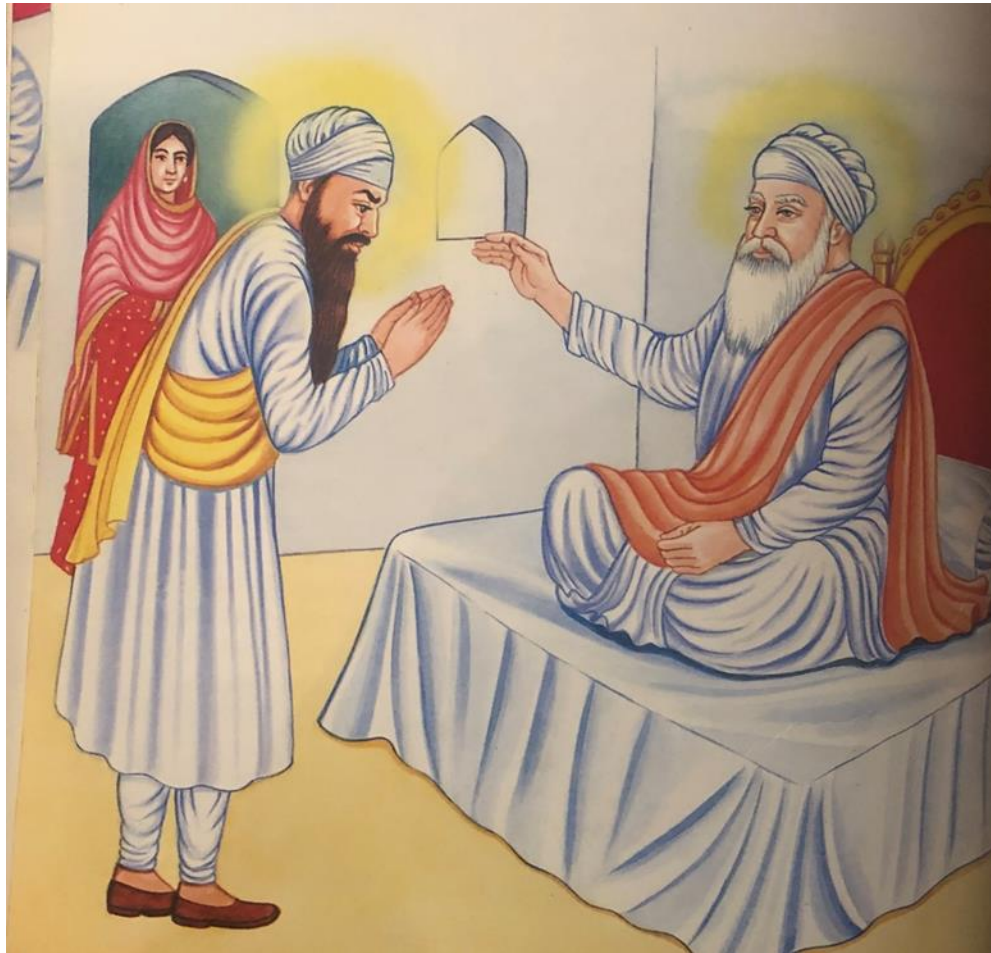
On his way to Goindwal Sahib to meet Guru Amar Das



Assumption of Guruship

- Even after his marriage , Bhai Jetha along with Bibi Bhani continued to serve Guru with full devotion.
- Selfless service, humility and the sweet nature of Bhai Jetha had a profound impact on Guru Amar Das .
- **On 1st September,1574 A.D** Bhai Jetha began to known as Guru Ram Das and hence became the **fourth Guru of the Sikhs.**
- **Guru Amar Das also gave a blessing to Bibi Bhani that Guruship would remain in her family.**

Bhai Jetha being blessed by Guru Amar Das



Development of Sikhism under Guru Ram Das

Foundation of
Ramdaspura

Introduction
of Masand
System

Reconciliation
with Udasis
Sect

Other
Important
Works

Friendly
Relations
With Akbar

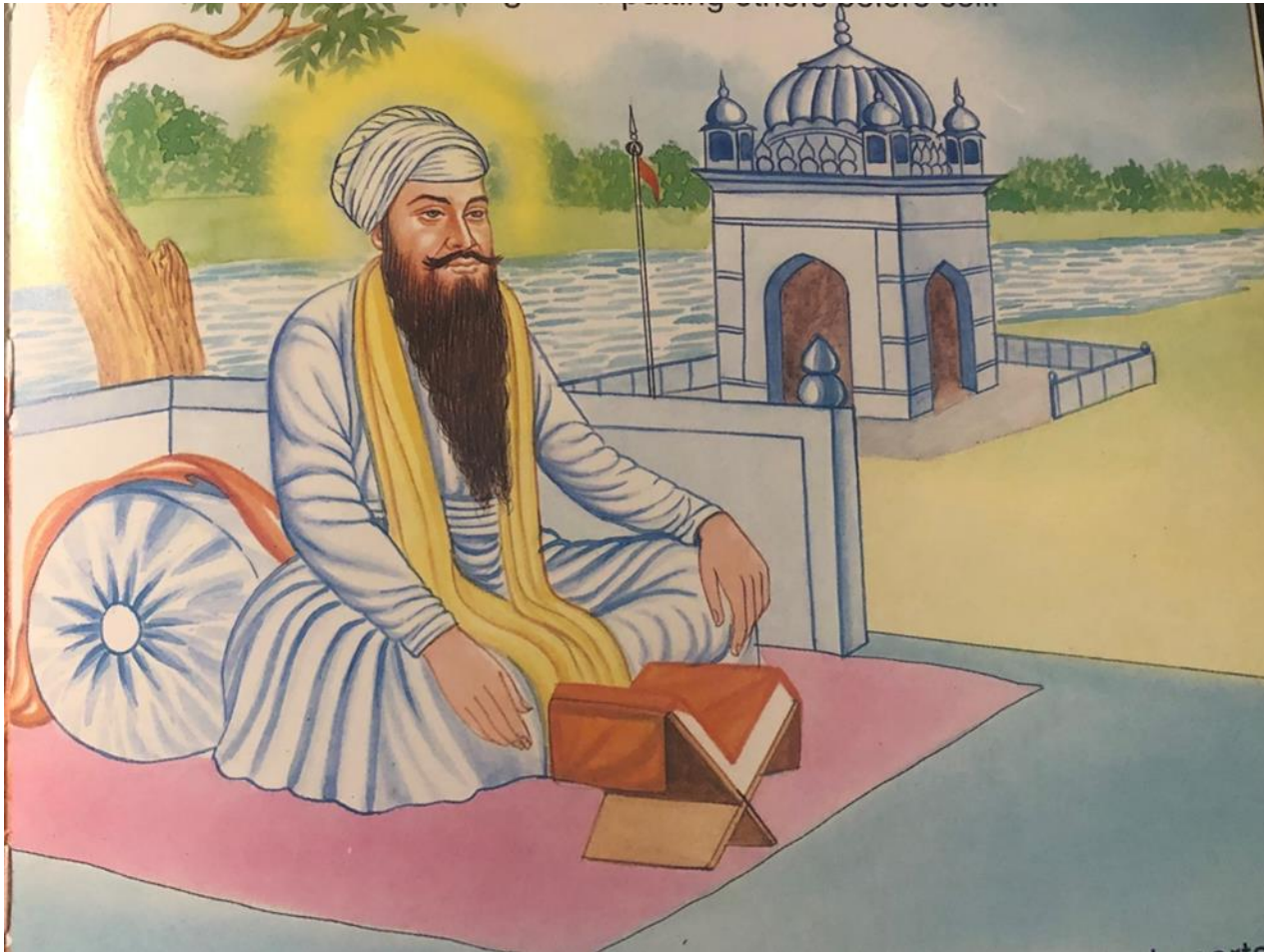
Foundation of Ramdaspura

- In 1577 A.D he founded Ramdaspura. Here he settled 52 traders belonging to different trades to make it popular. Later it came to known as Guru Ka Bazaar.
- Guru planned to construct two sarovars **Amritsar** and **Santokhsar** at Ramdaspura.
- Digging was entrusted under Baba Buddha.
- Later on Ramdaspura came to be known as Amritsar.

Guru Ram Das and Baba Buddha



Ramdaspora



Masand System

- Since Guru Ram Das started the digging of two sarovars Amritsar and Santokhsar at Ramdaspura.
- He needed money to complete the work.
- So, he sent his representatives to different places to collect money from the sikhs and to propagate sikhism.
- This institution came to known as Masand System .

Importance of Masand System

1. It succeeded in collecting money required for construction of Sarovars
2. It went a long way in propagating Sikhism in remote areas.
3. It helped in consolidating Sikhism .

Reconciliation with Udasis Sect

- Once Baba Sri Chand , founder of udasis sect came to see guru. He asked ,
“ Why have you grown such a long beard ?”
Guru replied,
“I have grown such a long beard to wipe the dust from the holy feet”
Baba Sri Chand was so much impressed ny Guru’s modesty and humility that he gave up opposing Sikhism from that day.

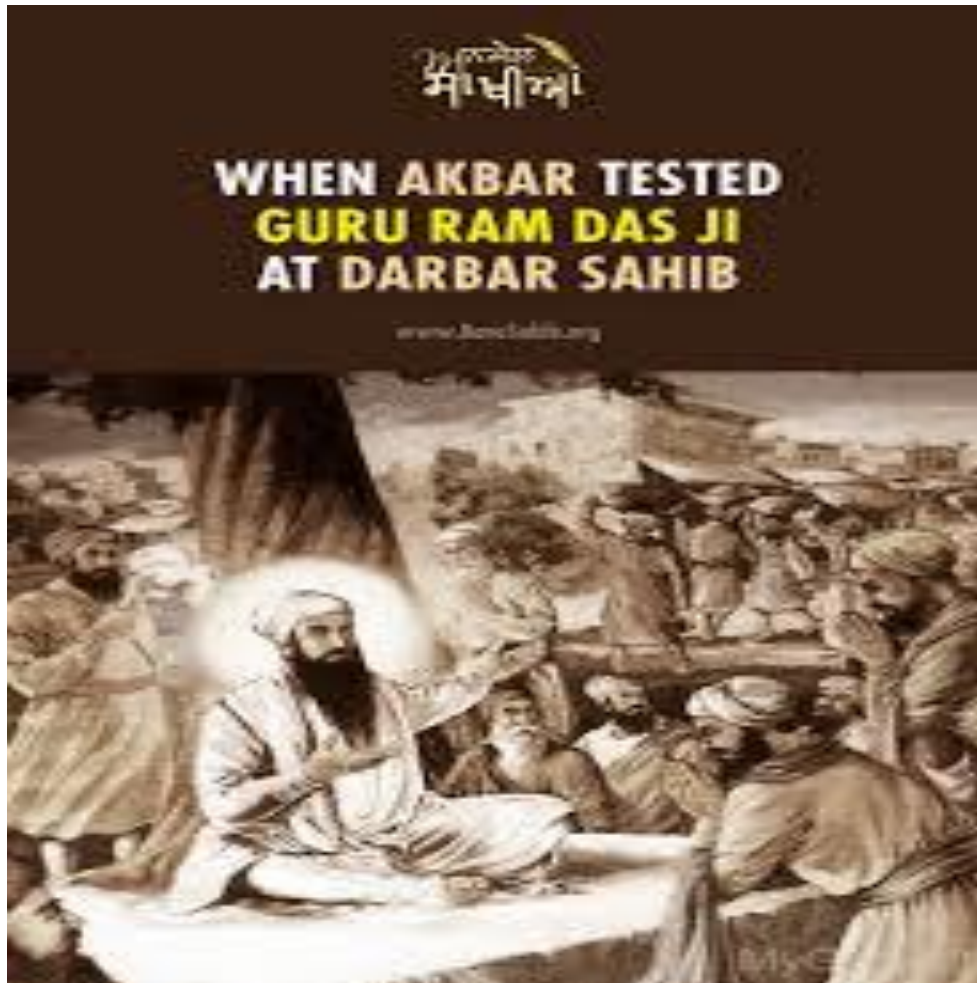
Reconciliation with the Udasis Sect

- Reconciliation proved useful as
 1. A long drawn tension and conflict between Sikhs and the Udasis ended.
 2. It went a long way in propagating Sikhism

Other Important Works

- He composed 679 Shabads.
- He also introduced Lawans in Sikh marriage.
- He further consolidated the institutions of Pangat, Sangat and Manji System.
- He condemned caste system, sati system, child marriage and denial of widow remarriage.

Akbar and Guru Ram Das



Friendly relations with Akbar

- Akbar was so impressed with Guru Ram Das that he donated 500 bighas of land to Guru Ram Das.
- He also remitted one year's land revenue to the farmers of punjab on the recommendation of Guru Ram Das

Nomination of the Successor

- In 1581, Guru Ram Das nominated his youngest son Arjan Dev as the next successor.
- Prithia Chand , the eldest son of Guru Ram Das annoyed him because of his Conspiracies.
- His Second son Mahadev was not interested in worldly matters .
- Guru Ram Das immersed with Immortal on 1st September 1581

Estimate

- Although Guru served for only 7 years yet he succeeded in giving a new impetus to the Sikhism.

Thank You